FISCAL MEMORANDUM

SB 2179 – HB 2695

April 20, 2012

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (016966): Deletes all language after the enacting clause. Creates a Class A misdemeanor offense for a person to knowingly maim or inflict harm or attempt to maim or inflict harm on a service animal; to permit an animal that the person owns or is in immediate control of to maim or inflict harm on a service animal; or to recklessly maim or otherwise inflict harm on a service animal or to permit an animal that a person owns or is in the immediate control of to maim or otherwise inflict harm on a service animal. Creates a Class C misdemeanor offense for a person to knowingly interfere with a service animal in the performance of its duties or to permit an animal the person owns or is in immediate control of to interfere with a service animal in the performance of its duties. Requires the court to order such offender to make full restitution for damages. Specifies if a violation involves a guide dog and the offense results in injury to the dog that permanently deprives the owner of the use of the guide dog's services, nothing in the proposed legislation shall preclude prosecution and conviction for such conduct under Tenn. Code Ann. 39-14-208.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

> **Unchanged from the original fiscal note.**
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> Assumptions applied to amendment:
>
> - There will not be a sufficient number of misdemeanor prosecutions for state or local government to experience any significant increase in revenue or expenditures.
> - A small increase in cases in the court system will result in additional state and local government expenditures for processing the cases and additional state and local government revenue from fees, taxes and costs collected. These expenditures and revenue are estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

/lsc